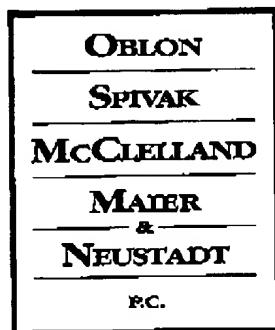


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OSMM&N File No. 216011US3

Dept.: E/MBy: GJM/CDW/RH/meSerial No. 09/987,551In the matter of the Application of: Yoshinobu TAKANO, et al.For: BRANCHING METHOD FOR AN OPTICAL FIBER CABLE- Due Date: August 7, 2003

The following has been received in the U.S. Patent Office on the date stamped hereon:

- Check for \$252.00
 Cover Letter
 Amendment (After Final)

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Docket No. 216011US3

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Yoshinobu TAKANO, et al.

SERIAL NO: 09/987,551

FILED: November 15, 2001

FOR: BRANCHING METHOD FOR AN OPTICAL FIBER CABLE

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

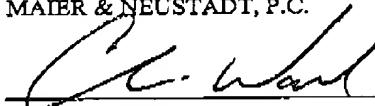
Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

- No additional fee is required
 Small entity status of this application under 37 C.F.R. §1.9 and §1.27 is claimed.
 Additional documents filed herewith:

The Fee has been calculated as shown below:

CLAIMS	CLAIMS REMAINING		HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID	NO. EXTRA CLAIMS	RATE	CALCULATIONS
TOTAL	13	MINUS	20	0	x \$18 =	\$0.00
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<input type="checkbox"/> MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS					+ \$280 =	\$0.00
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<input type="checkbox"/> Recordation of Assignment					+ \$40 =	\$0.00
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- Credit card payment form is attached to cover the fees in the amount of \$0.00
- Please charge any additional Fees for the papers being filed herewith and for which no check or credit card payment form is enclosed herewith, or credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 15-0030. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
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OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

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 Christopher D. Ward
 Registration No. 41,367

216011US3

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

Yoshinobu TAKANO, et al. : GROUP: 2874

SERIAL NO: 09/987,551 :

FILED: November 15, 2001 : EXAMINER: KNAUSS, S.

FOR: BRANCHING METHOD FOR AN :
OPTICAL FIBER CABLEAMENDMENT UNDER C.F.R § 1.116 (AFTER FINAL)COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

In response to the Office Action dated May 7, 2003, please consider the remarks below and amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

Amendments to the claims are shown on the listing of the claims beginning on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.